

RESOLUTION NO. 2018 – 3855

**A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND THE CITY COUNCIL OF
THE CITY OF MIAMI SPRINGS, FLORIDA, OPPOSING THE
EXPANSION OR CREATION OF NEW FACILITIES ON THE SITE
OF THE TURNER GUILFORD KNIGHT CORRECTIONAL CENTER;
URGING THE MAYOR AND BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONER
OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY TO REJECT ANY PLANS TO DO SAME;
PROVIDING FOR TRANSMITTAL; AND PROVIDING FOR AN
EFFECTIVE DATE**

WHEREAS, on February 13, 2020, the office of Miami-Dade County (the “County”) Mayor Carlos A. Gimenez transmitted to the Board of County Commissioners a report that provided a “Review of Miami-Dade County’s Need for a New Detention Facility and Recommended Funding Model, [in] Response to Resolution No. R-1295-18” (the “Report”); and

WHEREAS, neither the request for the Report nor the analyses or recommendations of the Report were made known to or included Village of Virginia Garden (“Virginia Gardens”), the City of Doral (“Doral”), the Town of Medley (“Medley”), or the City of Miami Springs (“Miami Springs”); and

WHEREAS, the Report recommends the construction of a new massive \$393 million detention center (“Jail Project”) adjacent to, or on the site of, the Turner Guilford Knight Correction Center (“TGK”), located at 6950 NW 41st Street, near Miami International Airport and surrounded by the Virginia Garden, Doral, Medley, and Miami Springs; and

WHEREAS, according to the Report, “[t]he new detention center complex would include a *1,400-bed* Detention Center with Mental Health Treatment Center and full service medical clinic; a *556-bed Intake and Release* Center to be combined with four

high volume courtrooms and office space for partnering criminal justice agencies . . . ; a Central Support Services Building; and a parking garage with finished office space for video visitation” (emphasis added); and

WHEREAS, despite the existence of TGK, the Report takes for granted the compatibility of the Jail Project with surrounding areas, which include single family residential to the east, industrial areas that are trending towards commercial all around the site, and the growth of residential over the past 30 years to the west, all of which are incompatible with the Jail Project, likely resulting in the depression of property values and a reduction in the quality of life of the surrounding areas; and

WHEREAS, many of NW Miami-Dade County’s roads, such as NW 36th Street, and its intersections, such as NW 36th Street and 72nd Avenue, have seen immense increases in traffic resulting in further deficiency in level of service to the point of failure and impassible traffic at peak morning and afternoon times, and the Jail Project will dramatically exacerbate those traffic conditions; and

WHEREAS, because the Report fails to give appropriate weight to the foregoing factors, the Report does not consider more appropriate locations for the construction of the Jail Project; and

WHEREAS, the selection of a site for a jail or the expansion of an existing facility can not simply consider what is in the best financial and operational interests of the County or special interests, but must balance the impact such a facility will have on the surrounding communities; and

WHEREAS, there exists a variety of locations in the County, including, but not limited to, the Metrowest Detention Center, better suited for the construction and permanence of the Jail Project; and

WHEREAS, the residents, workers, and business owners of NW Miami-Dade County should not have to carry such a disproportionate burden; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the City of Miami Springs oppose the construction of the Jail Project at TGK and demand the Mayor Gimenez and BCC to reject the plans and find a more appropriate site for same.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MIAMI SPRINGS, FLORIDA, AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Recitals. The foregoing recitals are confirmed, adopted, and incorporated herein and made a part hereof by this reference.

Section 2. Opposition to the Jail Project. The Mayor and City Council are hereby opposed to the Jail Project, the massive expansion or creation of new jail facilities on the TGK site. The Mayor and City Council demand that Mayor Gimenez and the Board of County Commissioners reject the recommendation of the Report, and any plans associated with, the construction of the Jail Project at the TGK site. Mayor Gimenez and the Board of County Commissioners are strongly urged to find an alternative location for the Jail Project, one that suits the needs of the County while also considering the impact on the residents, workers, and business owners of the surrounding areas. It is also urged that Miami-Dade County include municipalities earlier in the process in the development of the Jail Project and/or other such projects of county-wide significance to ensure adequate consideration of the municipalities' position(s)

Section 3. **Transmittal.** The City Clerk is hereby directed to transmit a certified copy of this Resolution to Mayor Carlos Gimenez, Chairwoman Audrey M. Edmondson, Vice Chairwoman Rebeca Sosa, and the Members of the Board of the Miami-Dade County Commission, the Mayors and Council Members of the Village of Virginia Gardens, Town of Medley, and the City of Doral, and such other individuals and/or offices as may be necessary to advance to the position taken herein

Section 4. **Effective Date.** This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon its adoption.

The foregoing Resolution was offered by Councilman Best who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Zapata and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

Vice Mayor Marie Puente Mitchell	<u>YES</u>
Councilman Bob Best	<u>YES</u>
Councilwoman Mara Zapata	<u>YES</u>
Councilman Jaime Petralanda	<u>YES</u>
Mayor Billy Bain	<u>YES</u>

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 24th day of February, 2019.



BILLY BAIN, MAYOR

ATTEST:



ERIKA GONZALEZ-SANTAMARIA, MMC
CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGAL SUFFICIENCY
FOR THE USE AND RELIANCE OF THE CITY OF MIAMI SPRINGS ONLY:



WEISS, SEROTA, HELFMAN, COLE & BIERMAN, P.L.
CITY ATTORNEY